### **CHAPTER 166**

### SITE PLAN

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**166.01 PURPOSE.** It is the intent and purpose of this chapter to establish a procedure which will enable the City of Indianola to plan for and review certain proposed improvements of property within specified zoning districts of the City in order to accomplish the following:

- 1. Promote and permit flexibility that will encourage a more creative and imaginative approach in development and result in a more efficient, aesthetic, desirable and economic use of land;
- 2. Provide minimal effect upon adjacent properties and existing development. To this end, the Planning and Zoning Commission may make appropriate requirements;
- 3. Promote development that can be conveniently, efficiently and economically served by existing municipal utilities and services or by their logical extension;
- 4. Provide for the enhancement of the natural setting through careful and sensitive placement of manmade facilities and plant materials;
- 5. Encourage adequate provision for surface and subsurface drainage in order to assure that future development of other areas of the City will be available;
- 6. Provide suitable screening of parking, truck loading, refuse disposal, outdoor storage areas and noise from adjacent and nearby property.

**166.02 INITIAL PROCEDURE.** Whenever any person proposes to develop or build on any tract or parcel of land for which a building permit is required within the R-2 (Single-Family Residential), R-3 (Single and Two-Family Residential), R4 (Mixed Residential), C-2 (Highway Commercial), C-3 (General Retail and Office), M-1 (Limited Industrial), M-2 (General Industrial) and A-1 (Agricultural) district for any use except:

- 1. Agricultural buildings used only for farming purposes such as: livestock-dairy-grain in excess of twenty (20) or more acres;
- 2. One- and two-family dwellings;

- 3. All principal and accessory buildings less than one hundred fifty (150) square feet in total floor area;
- 4. No more than two additions to existing one-story buildings in the amount of fifty percent (50%) or less of its existing ground cover and/or total floor area, or in an amount less than one thousand (1,000) square feet, whichever is less, from the effective date of the Site Plan Ordinance. (*Ord.* 1389 *Feb.* 08 Supp.)

that person shall submit to the Building Official a site plan which shall consist of an overhead view of the proposed site and contain all of the required information hereinafter set out, and adopt the design standards hereinafter specified unless waived by the Building Official.

- **166.03 REQUIRED INFORMATION.** Site plans which are submitted for review shall be drawn to a scale of 1 inch = 50 feet or larger and shall include as a minimum the following items of information, unless otherwise waived by the Building Official:
  - 1. Legal description and address of the property to be developed.
  - 2. Name and address of the record property owner, the applicant and the person preparing the site plan.
  - 3. Existing zoning classification.
  - 4. Date of preparation, north point and scale.
  - 5. Existing and proposed utility lines and easements.
  - 6. Where possible ownership or boundary problems exist, as determined by the Building Official, a property survey by a licensed land surveyor shall be required.
  - 7. Total number and types of buildings and location proposed; proposed uses for all buildings; total floor area of each building, estimated number of employees for each proposed use, where applicable; and any other information which may be necessary to determine the number of off-street parking and loading spaces required by the Zoning Ordinance.
  - 8. Location and type of any existing and proposed signs and of any existing or proposed lighting on the property which illuminates any part of any required yard. All outside lighting is to be directed away from adjoining residential uses. If there is no outside lighting, the same should be indicated.
  - 9. Location and description of fence, hedges, trees and shrubs or natural boundaries that are existing or proposed.
  - 10. Downspout locations.
  - 11. All required yard setbacks.

- 12. Complete traffic circulation and parking plan, where applicable, as determined by the Building Official, showing the location and dimensions of all existing and proposed parking stalls, loading areas, entrance and exit drives, dividers, planters and other similar permanent improvements.
- 13. A plan to be implemented at the time of or prior to construction, which will eliminate excessive and unnecessary soil erosion, both during and after construction.

# 166.04 SPECIFIC DESIGN STANDARDS REQUIRED.

- 1. On approval by the Building Official, building permits may be issued, as long as all other requirements of the City, State and County are met, and construction may commence.
- 2. In order for the Building Official to approve a site plan application, the following specific design standards must be met:
  - A. The plan must provide for adequate routing of downspout discharge, footing drain discharge and parking lot runoff.
  - B. Storm water may not be directed out driveways into the City rightof-way, except where permitted by City. Storm water shall be collected and piped to a storm sewer where a storm sewer is available within three hundred (300) feet from the property line. The storm sewer system's pipes and intakes shall be capable of conveying runoff from a five-year recurrence interval storm from the site and tributary upstream areas. Storm water runoff calculations shall be made utilizing the Soil Conservation Service methods as presented in Technical Release No. 55, Urban Hydrology for Small Watersheds, Soil Conservation Service, U.S. The Building Official may waive this Department of Agriculture. requirement, provided the area to be developed is less than ten thousand (10,000) square feet. The calculations shall be certified by an engineer, architect or landscape architect registered in the State of Iowa and familiar with such calculations.
  - C. Existing overland drainage courses must be maintained and improved to provide capacity to convey the runoff from a one hundred-year recurrence interval storm across the site. Storm water runoff shall be computed on the basis of a fully developed drainage basin, using the method prescribed in paragraph B of this subsection. No reduction in the required overland drainage course capacity will be made due to use of storm sewers or storm water detention facilities. Easements for the overland drainage course must be prepared by the developer and conveyed to the City.

- D. Storm water detention is required for all sites larger than one acre in size, unless it is determined by the Building Department to be unnecessary or impractical. The maximum allowable discharge rate from the storm water detention facility will be limited to that from a five-year return frequency storm after development of the site or to the proportionate capacity of existing downstream sewers and drainageways during a five-year storm which was utilized by the runoff from the site prior to the development, whichever discharge rate is less. Storm water runoff and storm water detention facilities shall be determined using the method prescribed in paragraph B of this subsection. The discharge rate shall be controlled at the detention facilities outlet(s) and not in the storm sewer size serving the site.
- E. To help alleviate erosion and maintenance problems, recommended maximum ground slope is to be 3:1, desirable being 4:1.
- F. Parking lots and access shall be hard-surfaced, limited to a maximum slope of six percent (6%) in a direction perpendicular to the car. Driveways shall not exceed a ten percent (10%) slope. Where portland cement concrete pavement is used, the pavement shall comply with the materials and be constructed in such a manner as to provide an equivalent finished product as specified in the most current Standard Specifications for Highway and Bridge Construction, Iowa Department of Transportation, utilizing a "Class C Concrete" mix Class 2 or 3 durability coarse aggregate. Where asphaltic cement concrete pavement is used, the pavement shall comply with the materials and be constructed in such a manner as to provide an equivalent finished product as specified in the Standard Specifications for Highway and Bridge Construction, Iowa Department of Transportation. The pavement shall utilize nonrecycled virgin material which shall include Type B base and Type A surface courses and which shall comply with the most current Iowa Department of Transportation jobmix formula. Where asphaltic cement concrete is placed on a crushed stone base, the base shall comply with an approved Iowa Department of Transportation Class A or B crushed stone base material and gradation. All hard-surfacing shall be constructed on a prepared uniform subgrade compacted to ninety-five percent (95%) of maximum density (Standard Proctor Density). The parking lot and driveway design shall meet or exceed the following minimum paving thickness requirements:

	Full Depth Asphaltic Cement Concrete			Asphaltic Cement Concrete Over Crushed Stone Base		
	Туре В	Type A	Crushed	Туре В	Type A	Portland Cement
Parking Lot	Base	Surface	Stone	Base	Surface	Concrete
Parking Lots						
50 Stalls or Less	3 inches	2 inches	6 inches	0 inches	3 inches	4 inches

Parking Lots More than 50 Stalls Except Loading Dock or Drive Areas with Bus or Truck Traffic	3 inches	3 inches	6 inches	0 inches	4 inches	5 inches
Loading Dock Area	NOT ACCEPTABLE			NOT ACCEPTABLE		7 inches
Driveway Areas with Bus or Truck Traffic	6 inches	2 ½ inches	6 inches	3 inches	3 inches	6 inches

- G. The number of curb drops/driveway approaches in residential areas shall be limited to eighteen (18) feet to thirty (30) feet in width and thirty (30) feet apart. Commercial or industrial areas, accesses are limited to eighteen (18) feet to forty (40) feet in width.
- H. Vision clearances are to be provided for private drives where they intersect public streets. No fence, wall, hedge, or other plantings or structures that will obstruct the vision between the height of three (3) feet and ten (10) feet above grade, and within the first ten (10) feet of the required yard and within twenty-five (25) feet of either side of the driveway access.
- I. Minimum ten percent (10%) natural green space is required, excluding City and State rights-of-way. Paved areas are to be minimized to reduce runoff. All disturbed or unused portions of the site, where sod or approved landscaping has not been placed, are to be seeded and 95% free of weeds within ninety days of occupancy.

  (Ord. 1325 Aug. 05 Supp.)
- J. The following conditions shall require a buffer yard between abutting districts and uses: Whenever any person or firm develops or builds on any tract or parcel of land for which an official site plan is required within a C-1 (Shopping Center District), C-2 (Highway Commercial), C-3 (General Retail and Office), C-4 (Planned Commercial District), M-1 (Limited Industrial) or M-2 (General Industrial) which is adjacent to an A-1 (Agricultural), R-1 (Single-Family Residential), R-2 (Single- and Two-Family Residential), R-3 (Mixed Residential), R-4 (Multiple-Family Residential), R-5 (Planned Residential) or R-6 (Mobile Home Residential) zoning classification, the tract or parcel of land shall have a buffer yard adjacent to the A-1, R-1, R-2, R-3, R-4, R-5 or R-6 zoning classification.

Whenever any person or firm develops or builds on any tract or parcel of land any multi-family dwelling in excess of one-story or any mobile home

park or any manufactured housing units not converted to real estate which is adjacent to single family residences, the tract or parcel of land shall have a buffer yard adjacent to single family residences.

Buffer yards required under the provisions of this subsection shall be accomplished by any one of the following methods:

- (1) A buffer yard of twenty (20) feet or less in width with a five-foot high earth berm for the entire length of the lot; and three (3) overstory trees, six (6) understory trees and fifteen (15) shrubs per one hundred (100) lineal feet; or
- (2) A buffer yard more than twenty (20) feet in width with five (5) overstory trees, ten (10) understory trees and ten (10) shrubs per one hundred (100) lineal feet; or
- (3) A six-foot high double-face opaque wooden fence; or a six-foot high masonry wall, to be constructed with face brick, stucco or a similar finished surface toward the A-1, R-1, R-2, R-3, R-4, R-5 or R-6 zoning classification.

The City Council reserves the right to waive or modify to a lesser restriction any provision or requirement of buffer yards contained herein, provided a favorable report on such change is recommended by the Planning and Zoning Commission and approved the by Council, and further provided, said waiver or modification does not adversely affect the intent of these regulations to adequately safeguard the general public and surrounding property.

166.05 GENERAL DESIGN POLICIES. In addition to the specific design standards as stated above, each site plan presented shall comply with the following general design policies, and the Building Official may refuse to grant approval to a site plan even though it complies with the specific design standards if, in the opinion of the Building Official, it does not comply with the general design policies as hereinafter enumerated. Any site plan presented shall be designed in such a way as to insure the orderly and harmonious development of property in such a manner as will safeguard the public's health, safety and general welfare, as hereinafter set out.

- 1. The design of the proposed improvements shall make adequate provisions for surface and subsurface drainage, for connections to water and sanitary sewer lines, each so designed as to neither overload existing public utility lines for what they were designed nor increase the danger of erosion, flooding, landslide or other endangerment of adjoining or surrounding property.
- 2. The proposed improvements shall be designed and located within the property in such manner as not to unduly diminish or impair the use and enjoyment of adjoining property, and to this end shall minimize the adverse effects on such adjoining property from automobile headlights, illuminations of required perimeter yards, refuse containers and impairment of natural light and impairment or pollution of air. For the purpose of this section, the term "use and enjoyment of adjoining property" means the use and enjoyment presently being made of such adjoining property, unless such property is vacant. If vacant, the term "use and enjoyment of adjoining property" means those uses permitted under the zoning districts in which such adjoining property is located.
- 3. The proposed development shall have such entrances and exits upon adjacent streets and such internal traffic circulation pattern as will not unduly increase congestion on adjacent or surrounding public streets.
- 4. To such end as may be necessary and proper to accomplish the standards in subsections 1, 2 and 3 of this section, the proposed development shall provide fences, walls, screening, landscaping, erosion control or other improvements.
- 5. The proposed development shall conform to all applicable provisions of the laws of the State of Iowa, and all applicable provisions of this Code of Ordinances.

166.06 ALTERNATE METHOD FOR APPROVAL OF SITE PLAN. If the Building Official does not approve the site plan as presented and the applicant is unable or unwilling to meet the above criteria and specific design standards or provide the information as required, the applicant shall have the option of submitting the site plan to the Planning and Zoning Commission and Council for their review, in accordance with the following provisions: Applicant shall cause to be prepared a site plan for such development and submit a reproducible medium and three (3) copies to the Building and Zoning Department. The site plan shall be accompanied by a cover letter requesting review and approval of said plan and by a receipt from the Clerk's office as proof of payment of the application fee which is as follows:

Site plan review — one acre or less ......\$ 35.00

Site plan review — more than one acre .......\$ 70.00

The site plan shall contain all of the information required by Sections 166.03 and 166.04 of this chapter and, in addition, shall contain the following supplemental information:

- 1. Existing and proposed contours at an interval not to exceed two (2) feet, provided that at least two (2) contours shall be shown.
- 2. Location, shape, exterior dimensions and number of stories of each existing building to be retained and of each proposed building.
- 3. A vicinity map at a scale of one inch equals four hundred (400) feet or larger, showing the general location of the property.
- 4. Soil tests and similar information, if deemed necessary by the Building Official to determine the feasibility of the proposed development in relation to the design standards set forth in this chapter.
- 5. In case of any conflicting requirements between the this chapter and any existing ordinance of the City, the more restrictive requirement shall be met.

EXCEPTION: C-1, C-4, R-5 and R-6 zoning restriction shall apply.

# 166.07 ACTION ON SITE PLAN; PROCEDURES.

- 1. Within forty-five (45) days after receiving the application for site plan review as required by Section 166.02 of this chapter, plus the supplement thereto as required by Section 166.03, the Planning and Zoning Commission shall recommend to the Council to either approve, approve subject to conditions, or disapprove the site plan. Failure by the Commission to act within the time specified herein shall be deemed recommendation for approval of the site plan as submitted, provided that the site plan has been presented to a quorum of the Commission and that the plan as submitted does not conflict with any existing ordinance, statute, rule or law affecting the subject property, and provided further that if additional information is required by the Building Official pursuant to Section 166.03 of this chapter, the time period specified above shall not commence until such information has been filed with the Building and Zoning Department.
- 2. The Building Official shall promptly notify the applicant in writing of any revisions or additional information needed as required by Sections 166.03 and 166.05. If necessary, the applicant shall make revisions and resubmit the revised plan to the Building Official for acceptance. If the site plan complies with requirements set forth in this chapter, the applicant's plan shall be submitted on reproducible medium to the Planning and Zoning Commission for recommendation to the Council for approval, disapproval or approval subject to conditions.
- 3. A mylar of the plan with all changes recommended by the Commission, if any, shall be submitted to the Building Official. Upon recommendation from the Commission to the Council, the applicant's plan will be put on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled Council meeting, for final approval or disapproval by the Council. If the Council rejects the plan, they will advise the owner or developer of any changes which are desired or that should have consideration before approval will be given. The applicant shall then submit the revised original for certification by the Council. The Planning and Zoning Commission and the Council, in approving or disapproving any site plan and in making recommendations for alterations or amendments to the site plan as presented, shall be governed by the general policies as set out by this chapter in Section 166.05 and the purpose of this chapter as set out in Section 166.01.
- **166.08 SITE PLAN AMENDMENT.** Any approved site plan may be amended in accordance with the standards and procedures established herein. The Building Official may approve those amendments which are consistent both with the specific design standards set out in Section 166.04 and the general design standards set out in section 166.05. If the Building Official does not approve amendments, the applicant may resubmit amendments under Section 166.07. Any amendments, however, shall not be

made unless the prior written approval for such amendment is obtained from the Building Official. No fees are required for an amendment.

**166.09 APPEALS; PLAN RESUBMITTAL.** Any person, board, department or bureau aggrieved by any final decision of the Council or Building Official relative to a site plan may seek review by a court of record of such decision. A site plan that has been denied by the Council may be resubmitted by the applicant to the Building and Zoning Department, pursuant to the terms of this chapter and upon payment of appropriate fees. Fees will also be required for plans that have expired under Section 166.10.

166.10 VALIDITY OF APPROVAL. A site plan shall become valid upon certification of approval by the Building Official, where said official has made approval under the provisions of Section 166.04, or upon approval by the Council pursuant to Section 166.07. In the event that an appeal is filed, a site plan shall not become valid until all appeals have been decided. The approval of any site plan required by this chapter shall remain valid for two (2) years after the date of approval, after which time the site plan shall be deemed null and void if the development has not been established or actual construction commenced. For the purpose of this chapter, "actual construction" means that the permanent placement of construction materials has started and is proceeding without undue delay. Preparation of plans, securing financial arrangements, issuance of building permits, letting of contracts, grading of property or stockpiling of materials on the site shall not constitute actual construction.

### 166.11 HIGHWAY CORRIDORS.

1. Purpose. The purpose of the architectural design standards found in this section is to recognize the importance of Highways 65-69 and 92 to the City's image and future development, to establish specific design guidelines for all development within the enforcement areas and to avoid the construction of structures which have the general appearance of farm machine sheds. Improvement of the highway corridors through Indianola should be undertaken by devising an overall long range plan. The plan must focus on unifying and enhancing the appearance not only of the public right-of-way but also of the private property abutting it.

- 2. Enforcement Area. All improvements and/or developments that are subject to the requirements of this chapter and are property zoned C-2 (Highway Commercial), A-1 (Agricultural), R-1 (Single-Family Residential), R-2 (Single and Two-Family Residential and R-3 (Mixed Residential). (*Ord.* 1349 May 06 Supp.)
- 3. Design Standards.
  - A minimum of one hundred percent (100%) of the building wall surface that faces Highway 65-69 or 92 shall consist of full natural brick, exterior finish insulation system (E.F.I.S.), culture stone and/or masonry veneer with a minimum of 1.5" in thickness that is mechanically fastened to the exterior of the building structure. Those walls that adjoin a wall that fronts Highways 65-69 or 92 shall consist of thirty percent (30%) full natural brick, exterior finish insulation system (E.F.I.S.), culture stone and/or masonry veneer with a minimum of 1.5" in thickness that is mechanically fastened to the exterior of the building structure. Said 30% shall be for the entire depth of the walls at ground level and shall not be achieved in a vertical configuration. Areas for glazing or overhead doors (or similar doors for vehicle entrances only) shall be excluded from the total wall area in making this determination. If E.F.I.S. is being utilized for more than 50% of the total wall surface, architectural accenting consisting of a minimum of 20% of the wall surface is required. The use of colors, materials, façade projections, recesses, articulated roof lines, enhanced entrances, lighting, windows and awnings can be used to make the improvement aesthetically companionable. This regulation shall not be construed to prevent the use of innovative materials or progressive structural designs. Plans or designs which deviate from the full natural brick, exterior finish insulation system (E.F.I.S.), culture stone and/or masonry veneer with a minimum of 1.5" in thickness that is mechanically fastened to the exterior of the building structure requirements found in this section may be submitted to the Planning and Zoning Commission and Council for their review and approval.

(Ord. 1392 – Feb. 08 Supp.) (Ord. 1426 – Sep. 09 Supp.)

- B. Unpainted metal siding is prohibited.
- C. Section 166.04(2)(I) of this chapter requires a minimum of ten percent (10%) natural green space. In the highway corridors described in this section, fifty percent (50%) of the natural green space required by Section 166.04(2)(I) shall be located between the building and Highway 65-59 or 92. In lieu of the fifty percent (50%) natural green space requirement described above, an alternate landscape plan may be submitted under Section 166.06 of this chapter. The natural green space required by this section shall meet the following requirements:

(1) Minimum requirements: two (2) trees or two (2) trees per three thousand (3,000) square feet of green area.

10 percent ......3 - 3½ inch caliper

30- 40 percent...... $2 - 2\frac{1}{2}$  inch caliper

Balance .....8-10 foot bare root stock

- (2) Minimum requirements: six (6) shrubs or three (3) shrubs per three thousand (3,000) square feet of green area.
- (3) Enforcement. A landscaping plan shall be submitted for approval as part of the final site-plan submittal. The landscaping plan is to show the following:
  - (a) Location of trees and shrubs
  - (b) Size and species of trees and shrubs
  - (c) Percentage of each size of tree
  - (d) Type of ground cover and form of maintenance

Landscaping for screening purposes shall be illustrated in elevation and perspective. The size and exact names of plants, shrubs or trees to be planted shall be clearly indicated. Approval of in-place landscaping must be requested by developer at the time an occupancy permit is requested. Landscaping must be completed by October 15 to be considered for approval during a calendar year. Landscaping materials shall be planted as each phase of the site is developed. Should completion of landscaping be delayed because of the season of the year, a temporary occupancy permit may be issued if the developer posts a bond in the amount of the landscaping to be completed. At the developer's option and at the time of site-plan filing, the developer may submit a list of alternate or substitute species from the permitted or established list if the preferred species are not available when needed and required.

- D. Loading areas and waste container areas shall be screened from public view or shall be located on the side or rear yard.
- E. The architectural design standard requirements found in this section apply to additions to existing buildings except additions to existing buildings in the amount of fifty percent (50%) or less of its existing ground cover and/or total first floor area, all in an amount of less than one thousand (1,000) square feet, whichever is less. Whenever additions to existing buildings are subject to requirements of this section, then the existing building which received the addition shall also be subject to the same requirements.

F. A certificate of occupancy shall not be issued until all screening is in place. Its issuance is expressly conditioned on the proper maintenance and replacement, when necessary, of the screening. If the required plantings, at any time, fall below the plantings shown upon the approved site plan, the Council, upon reasonable notice and hearing, shall revoke the certificate of occupancy unless the deficiencies are corrected or replaced within a reasonable time to be set by the Council.

### 4. Downtown Area.

A. Purpose. To establish a means by which the City and individual building owners can evaluate buildings within the downtown area for rehabilitation suitability and to provide a series of options for subsequent action. Encouragement of architectural facades and the aesthetic impact of a variety of building images on the streetscape can lead to a more unified downtown district and the community as a whole.

### B. Objectives.

- Reinforce the existing historical context and the architectural tradition of the downtown area as a unique and special pedestrian-oriented business district.
- Respect the past and develop the desired qualities that are already present.
- Reinforce the desired existing building proportions, rhythms and setback.
- Design or redesign building storefronts to provide better display, security, entry, signage and identity.
- Provide options for rehabilitation that allow multiple methods for façade development within a framework of common goals.
- C. Downtown Design Standards. Requirement of Section 166.02 and subsequent sections of this chapter shall apply. The architectural standards shall apply to those buildings within blocks 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 16, 17 and 18 of the Original Town Plat, Indianola, Iowa.
  - (1) A licensed architect design, which is complementary of the physical and building era characteristics already established along the streetscape such as height, width and its relationship with surrounding buildings.
  - (2) Exterior materials and design to be used shall follow the requirement of Section 166.06 Alternate Method of Approval of Site Plan.

(3) Prior to making a recommendation, Planning and Zoning Commission shall review the proposed improvement as it applies to its architectural design, the location, the design of adjacent buildings, the proposed number of stories and the exterior materials used on all walls visible to the public.

(Ord. 1426 – Sep. 09 Supp.)

- **166.12 PROFESSIONAL ASSISTANCE.** The Council, the Planning and Zoning Commission or City staff may request such professional assistance as it deems necessary to properly evaluate the site plans as submitted. The owner or developer shall reimburse the City for the reasonable expenses incurred by the City for all contracted professional engineering or consulting services. Occupancy permits shall not be issued until the City is reimbursed for the expenses.
- 166.13 VIOLATION; ADDITIONAL REMEDIES. Any person violating any of the provisions of this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and the imposition of one penalty for any violation shall not excuse the violation or permit it to continue, and all such persons shall be required to correct or remedy such violation or defects within a reasonable time, and when not otherwise specified, each thirty (30) days that prohibited conditions are maintained shall constitute a separate offense. In addition, the City may proceed in law or in equity to restrain, correct or abate such violation, to prevent the occupancy of said building, structure or land, or to prevent any illegal act, conduct of business or use in or about such premises.